

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 11 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A damper comprising:
 - a pressure tube forming a working chamber;
 - a reservoir tube disposed around said pressure tube, said reservoir tube forming a reservoir chamber between said pressure tube and said reservoir tube;
 - a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said base valve assembly comprising:
 - a valve body defining a fluid passage, said valve body defining a first land, a second land disposed radially inward from said first land, and a support surface disposed between said first and second lands; and
 - a valve disc disposed adjacent said valve body, said valve disc abutting said first and second lands, ~~a clearance being formed between said valve disc and said support surface~~ said valve disc being movable between a first position where said valve disc contacts said first and second lands and forms a clearance with said entire support surface and a second position where said valve disc contacts said first and second lands and said support surface.
2. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein said first and second lands are annular in shape.

3. (original) The damper according to Claim 2 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.

4. (original) The damper according to Claim 2 wherein said support surface defines a circular inner edge.

5. (original) The damper according to Claim 4 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

6. (original) The damper according to Claim 2 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

7. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.

8. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein said support surface defines a circular inner edge.

9. (original) The damper according to Claim 8 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

10. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

11. (currently amended) A damper comprising:

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a piston disposed within said working chamber, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber, said piston defining a first land, a second land disposed radially inward from said first land and a support surface disposed between said first and second lands; and

a valve disc disposed adjacent said piston, said valve disc abutting said first and second lands, ~~a clearance being formed between said valve disc and said support surface~~ said valve disc being movable between a first position where said valve disc contacts said first and second lands and forms a clearance with said entire support surface and a second position where said valve disc contacts said first and second lands and said support surface.

12. (original) The damper according to Claim 11 wherein said first and second lands are annular in shape.

13. (original) The damper according to Claim 12 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.

14. (original) The damper according to Claim 12 wherein said support surface defines a circular inner edge.

15. (original) The damper according to Claim 14 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

16. (original) The damper according to Claim 12 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

17. (original) The damper according to Claim 11 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.

18. (original) The damper according to Claim 17 wherein said support surface defines a circular inner edge.

19. (original) The damper according to Claim 18 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.

20. (original) The damper according to Claim 11 wherein said support surface defines a scalloped outer edge.